IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN DIVISION

JOSEPH WOJCICKI,) C/A 1:06-461-HFF-BM
Plaintiff,)
-versus-) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
AIKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SUSAN A. WINSOR (EX.GRAHAM), WILLIAM TILT,)))
THOMAS DESROCHER, LEE POWELL,)
Defendants.)
)

This civil rights action was filed by the Plaintiff, <u>pro se</u>. An order authorizing service of process was entered on February 27, 2006, and the summons were issued the next day. Defendants subsequently filed a motion for extension of time to file an answer, which motion was granted on March 22, 2006. The new date for filing a responsive pleading was April 17, 2006. Defendants thereafter filed a motion to dismiss and accompanying memorandum by fax on April 17, 2006 after an attempt to do so electronically failed due to a computer network malfunction. Defendants were, however, able to file their motion electronically the next day, April 18, 2006. <u>See</u> Defendants' Exhibits B, C and D.

Plaintiff filed a motion for entry of default in this case and/or for summary judgment



on April 20, 2006 (Court Document No. 16), apparently arguing¹ that the Defendants did not timely file their responsive pleading. Based on the Court records as set forth hereinabove, Plaintiff's motion is without merit, and should be denied. To the extent Plaintiff has also intended to assert that he is entitled to summary judgment pursuant to Rule 56, Fed.R.Civ.P., any such motion should also be denied. Plaintiff has presented no facts or evidence in his motion which would entitle him to summary judgment in this case.

Based on the foregoing, it is recommended that the Plaintiff's motion for default and/or for summary judgment be **denied**.

The parties are referred to the Notice Page attached hereto.

Bristow Marchant

United States Magistrate Judge

Columbia, South Carolina

May 18, 2006



¹Plaintiff's motion is set forth in a rambling, disjointed style. It is therefore difficult to discern exactly what Plaintiff's arguments are.

Notice of Right to File Objections to Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation

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The Serious Consequences of a Failure to Do So

The parties are hereby notified that any objections to the attached Report and Recommendation (or Order and Recommendation) must be filed within ten (10) days of the date of its filing. 28 U.S.C. § 636 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b). The time calculation of this ten-day period excludes weekends and holidays and provides for an additional three days for filing by mail. Fed. R. Civ. P. 6. Based thereon, this Report and Recommendation, any objections thereto, and the case file will be delivered to a United States District Judge fourteen (14) days after this Report and Recommendation is filed. Advance Coating Technology, Inc. v. LEP Chemical, Ltd., 142 F.R.D. 91, 94 & n. 3 (S.D.N.Y. 1992). A magistrate judge makes only a recommendation, and the authority to make a final determination in this case rests with the United States District Judge. See Mathews v. Weber, 423 U.S. 261, 270-271 (1976); and Estrada v. Witkowski, 816 F. Supp. 408, 410 (D.S.C. 1993).

During the ten-day period, <u>but not thereafter</u>, a party must file with the Clerk of Court specific, written objections to the Report and Recommendation, if he wishes the United States District Judge to consider any objections. Any written objections must *specifically identify* the portions of the Report and Recommendation to which objections are made *and* the basis for such objections. Failure to file written objections shall constitute a waiver of a party's right to further judicial review, including appellate review, if the recommendation is accepted by the United States District Judge. See <u>United States v. Schronce</u>, 727 F.2d 91, 94 & n. 4 (4th Cir.), *cert. denied*, <u>Schronce v. United States</u>, 467 U.S. 1208 (1984); and <u>Wright v. Collins</u>, 766 F.2d 841, 845-47 & nn. 1-3 (4th Cir. 1985). Moreover, if a party files specific objections to a portion of a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation, but does not file specific objections to other portions of the Report and Recommendation, that party waives appellate review of the portions of the magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation precludes that party from subsequently raising that issue on appeal, even if objections are filed on other issues. <u>Howard v. Secretary of HHS</u>, 932 F.2d 505, 508-509 (6th Cir. 1991). See also <u>Praylow v. Martin</u>, 761 F.2d 179, 180 n. 1 (4th Cir.)(party precluded from raising on appeal factual issue to which it did not object in the district court), *cert. denied*, 474 U.S. 1009 (1985). In Howard, supra, the Court stated that general, non-specific objections are *not* sufficient:

A general objection to the entirety of the [magistrate judge's] report has the same effects as would a failure to object. The district court's attention is not focused on any specific issues for review, thereby making the initial reference to the [magistrate judge] useless. *** This duplication of time and effort wastes judicial resources rather than saving them, and runs contrary to the purposes of the Magistrates Act. *** We would hardly countenance an appellant's brief simply objecting to the district court's determination without explaining the source of the error.

Accord Lockert v. Faulkner, 843 F.2d 1015, 1017-19 (7th Cir. 1988), where the Court held that the appellant, who proceeded *pro se* in the district court, was barred from raising issues on appeal that he did not specifically raise in his objections to the district court:

Just as a complaint stating only 'I complain' states no claim, an objection stating only 'I object' preserves no issue for review. *** A district judge should not have to guess what arguments an objecting party depends on when reviewing a [magistrate judge's] report.

<u>See also Branch v. Martin</u>, 886 F.2d 1043, 1046 (8th Cir. 1989)("no de novo review if objections are untimely or general"), which involved a *pro se* litigant; and <u>Goney v. Clark</u>, 749 F.2d 5, 7 n. 1 (3rd. Cir. 1984)("plaintiff's objections lacked the specificity to trigger *de novo* review"). This notice, hereby, apprises the parties of the consequences of a failure to file specific, written objections. See <u>Wright</u>, <u>supra</u>,; and <u>Small v. Secretary of HHS</u>, 892 F.2d 15, 16 (2nd Cir. 1989). Filing by mail pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5 may be accomplished by mailing addressed as follows:

Larry W. Propes, Clerk United States District Court 901 Richland Street Columbia, South Carolina 29201

